

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 099624

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: LETTER TO THE SECRETARY FROM FOREIGN MINISTER
SILVEIRA

1. THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA TO THE SECRETARY DATED APRIL 23, 1975 WAS DELIVERED TO THE DEPARTMENT EVENING APRIL 25.
2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR HENRY, I WAS MOVED BY YOUR LETTER OF THE 21ST AND BY YESTERDAY'S PHONE CALL.
3. THE POSTPONEMENT OF YOUR TRIP, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT DICTATED IT, COULD NOT CREATE IN BRAZIL THE MISUNDERSTANDINGS YOU SEEM TO FEAR. YOU MAY REST ASSURED THAT THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT FOLLOWS WITH FRIENDLY INTEREST THE UNFOLDING OF THE DIFFICULT CRISES WHICH HAVE SO HEAVILY TAXED AMERICAN DIPLOMACY LATELY. WE ARE ALSO AWARE OF THE BURDENSOME DEMANDS THEY HAVE IMPOSED ON YOUR TIME AND CONCERN.

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4. IN YOUR LETTER YOU REASSURE ME OF THE DETERMINATION

ON THE PART OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE TO PLAY A DYNAMIC AND RESPONSIBLE ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS. IN PARTICULAR, YOU TELL ME THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO OFFER LEADERSHIP IN THE GREAT EFFORT TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF INTERNATIONAL INTERDEPENDENCE. FOR MY PART, I WANT TO TELL YOU THAT BRAZIL'S CONFIDENCE THAT THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL KNOW HOW TO CONTINUE THAT ROLE HAS NEVER WAVERED. WE FEEL CONFIDENT THAT THOSE VERY QUALITIES YOU MENTIONED - "RESILIENCE", OPTIMISM, AND ACTIVISM - WILL IMPEL THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO OVERCOME THE PRESENT DIFFICULTIES AND TO FACE, IN A CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER, THE CHALLENGES NOW CONFRONTING YOUR COUNTRY'S DIPLOMACY.

5. I REGRET THAT, OWING TO THE POSTPONEMENT OF YOUR TRIP, WE ARE NOT ABLE TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER IN PERSON. WE HAD ALREADY BROACHED IT AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON. WE COULD HAVE PURSUED IT FARTHER, ESPECIALLY AS THE AGGRAVATION OF THE VARIOUS CURRENT CRISES HAS MADE EVEN MORE URGENT AND NECESSARY THE EFFORT TO ACHIEVE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR THEM. I POSSIBLY WOULD NOT BE PRESENTING YOU ANY NEW CONCEPTS ACQUAINTED AS YOU ARE WITH THE VIEWS OF PRESIDENT GEISEL'S GOVERNMENT ON THE GREAT ISSUES OF CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL POLITICS. I MIGHT HOWEVER HAVE A CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE BY ACQUAINTING YOU WITH NUANCES AND EMPHASES WITH WHICH WE APPRAISE THE FORMS AND TACTICS OF COOPERATION THAT ARE SO IMPORTANT FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS.

6. IT WOULD OF COURSE NOT BE POSSIBLE TO EXHAUST IN THIS LETTER THE DIALOGUE WHICH WE ARE TO RESUME SHORTLY. BUT I DO WISH TO TELL YOU THAT IT ATTACH AN EVER GREATER IMPORTANCE TO THE CONSULTATIONS WE MAY ENTERTAIN, NOT ONLY FOR WHAT THEY MAY MEAN TO THE BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES BUT ALSO FOR THE CONTRIBUTION BRAZIL MAY RENDER, THROUGH SUCH A DIALOGUE, TOWARDS THE SOLUTION OF SOME WORLD PROBLEMS. THE DISPASSIONATE MANNER IN WHICH BRAZIL HAS BEEN EXAMINING AND CONFRONTING THE GREAT

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INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS - AVOIDING ALL DEMAGOGUERY, REJECTING ANY AUTOMATIC ALIGNMENTS, AND RESPONSIBLY ENGAGING IN EVER BROADER AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL ACTION - QUALIFIES US, I BELIEVE, TO PLAY BEFORE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, ALTHOUGH NOT A ROLE OF CONCILIATOR, AT LEAST THAT OF AN INTERPRETER OF THE LEGITIMATE FEELINGS OF THE VAST DEVELOPING WORLD, TO WHICH WE ALSO BELONG, FEELINGS THAT ARE OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD BECAUSE THEY ARE AT TIMES SHROUDED IN

EMOTIONALISM OR MANIFESTED IN AN IRRATIONAL WAY.

7. I FEEL EVER MORE CONVINCED THAT THE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES NOW FACING THE WORLD CAN ONLY BE MITIGATED BY A GENERAL CHANGE OF ATTITUDE ON THE PART OF THE MAJOR

COUNTRIES AND GROUPS OF COUNTRIES. BASICALLY, THERE MUST BE, ON THE PART OF ALL CONCERNED, A WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD. SUCH AN INTERDEPENDENCE SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD, IN MY VIEW, AS A HORIZONTAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NATIONS. I DO NOT DEEM THIS AN IMPOSSIBILITY, ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TENDS TO SEE IN THE EXACERBATED ATTITUDES OF CONFRONTATION OF MANY COUNTRIES ONLY AN IRREMEDIAL UNWILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE. TO A CERTAIN DEGREE, THIS ATTITUDE OF CONFRONTATION ON THE PART OF SOME COUNTRIES, AMONG WHICH BRAZIL IS NOT INCLUDED - ALLOW ME TO REPEAT IT - IS BUT THE REFLEX OF ANOTHER ATTITUDE OF INTRANSIGENCE ON THE PART OF THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH SUBSCRIBING, IN THEORY, TO THE JUSTICE OF MANY OF THE CAUSES DEFENDED BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVE A GLOBAL ECONOMIC REORGANIZATION, SO THAT THE SHARP DISCREPANCIES OF INCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES OF PROGRESS MIGHT BE REDUCED, THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES DO NOT ACCEPT THE ACTUAL CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A RECOGNITION ON THE LEVEL OF CONCRETE ACTIONS.

8. YOU MENTION THE WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONTINUE OFFERING ITS LEADERSHIP. MORE THAN EVER BEFORE SUCH A LEADERSHIP IS NECESSARY. MORE THAN EVER BEFORE THERE IS A PLACE FOR ENLIGHTENED LEADERSHIPS, WHOSE EFFECTIVENESS WILL DEPEND ON THEIR ABILITY
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TO INTERPRET THE PROFOUND MEANING OF THE GREAT PERPLEXITIES OF THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD.

9. AS TO YOUR SUGGESTION OF SENDING A CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON ECONOMIC MATTERS TO BRAZIL, I FIND IT USEFUL. OUR TWO CHANCERIES COULD ALREADY START PREPARATIONS FOR SUCH AN UNDERTAKING. PERHAPS WE COULD EXCHANGE SOME IDEAS ON THIS IN MAY.

10. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE PLEASURE OF SEEING YOU AGAIN IN WASHINGTON AT THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF OAS.
WARMEST REGARDS, ANTONIO. END TEXT.

11. PORTUGUESE TEXT FOLLOWS BY POUCH. KISSINGER

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